Introduction

In the United States, Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) is the most common reason patients are referred to gastroenterologists. Due to the multitude of symptoms, patients are often unable to suffer this condition. Because of this complexity, IBD is often difficult to diagnose. Symptoms vary from patient to patient and range from:

- Cramps, Abdominal Pain
- Bloating, Diarrhea, Constipation
- Visceral Hypersensitivity
- Post Infections Reactivity
- Carbohydrate Malabsorption
- Intestinal Inflammation

Statistics of Patients

IBD Incidence 1990 – 2016

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, three million adults in the United States are diagnosed with IBD as either Crohn’s disease or Ulcerative Colitis. This statistic does not include pediatric patients and has increased a million patients since 1999. Of these patients, most were likely born in the United States, lived in suburban areas or in poverty and are Hispanic or non-Hispanic Caucasians. Furthermore, three times as many women experience IBD due to menstruation. Although this disease is prevalent in 15% of primary care cases, pathogenesis of the disease is debated and unknown.

Traditional Treatment Disadvantages

Step-up Approach

Step 1A: Dietary restrictions or antibiotics
Step 2: Corticosteroids to reduce inflammatory response
Step 3: Immune modifying drugs such as Azathioprine
Step 4: Biological therapy drugs such as Infliximab
Step 5: Surgery

*Increase risk of rare cancers.
*Increase risk for rare lymphomas.
*Cause long term side effects.

Top-down Approach

The drug being formulated is a plant based metabolite and less carcinogenic than the medications listed above.

The drug, polymer and solvent solution was added dropwise into a vial of stabilizer and water under constant stirring.

Conclusions

Base on the literature, IBD impacts quality of life and does not have a medication regimen that lacks major side effects. Thus, the proposed drug polymer complex drug delivery system aims to reduce the inflammation of intestinal tissue in both Crohn’s disease and Ulcerative Colitis. The optimization of the complex with the integration of a stabilizer, polymer, and drug has been demonstrated by nanoprecipitation methodology.

Future Outlook

The future outlook for this project includes the development of a stable drug delivery system and optimizing the drug release from the polymer through the pH dissolution test, drug loading, mice studies, and drug coatings at different pH of gastrointestinal tract for a specified period of time.

References


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Fig 1. (a) Two main types of IBD. (b) Microscopic Mucosal Architecture of the Healthy Intestinal Tissue (c) Microscopic Mucosal Architecture distortion of the inflamed tissue mucosal.

Fig 2. IBD Incidences from 1990-2016 Worldwide.

Fig 3. Step-up and top-down approach for patients with uncontrolled IBD.

Fig 4. FTIR Analysis of Polymer-Drug Complexes.

Image 1

Image 2

Image 3

Image 4